

I WISH / IF ONLY

1. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH AN AUXILIARY VERB. Note that the auxiliary verb expresses reality.

Example:

I wish you didn't bit your nails, but you **do**.

1. I wish I earned more, but I _____
2. If only I could speak Spanish, but I _____.
3. If only he weren't so selfish, but he _____
4. I wish my car would start, but it _____
5. I wish you wouldn't get at me all the time, but you _____
6. If only I hadn't been sacked, but I _____
7. I wish I had a nice flat of my own, but I _____

2. UNDERLINE the correct alternative. Sometimes two are possible.

1. I really wish I ***can/could/was able*** to speak another language.
2. I wish it ***wan't / wouldn't be/ isn't*** so cold. I hate the winter.
3. Don't you wish that you ***don't/doesn't/didn't*** have to go to work tomorrow?
4. Our weekend away was a complete disaster. I wish we ***didn't go /hadn't gone / weren't going***.
5. The party was relly boring after you left. We all wish you ***would stay / had stayed / stayed*** longer.
6. I wish you ***weren't speaking / didn't speak / wouldn't speak*** so quickly. I can't understand a word you're saying.
7. I wish I ***didn't spend / wouldn't spend / hadn't spent*** all my money. Now I can't afford anything to eat and I'm starving!
8. Mrs Palmer wishes her grandchildren ***live / lived / had lived*** nearer. Then she cluld visit them more often.

3. **EXPRESIONS OF REGRET.** REWRITE each sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the word in bold.

1. wish

I'm sorry I didn't invite him to the party.

2. If only

I regret saying that to her.

3. wish

I shouldn't have hit him.

ANSWERS ex. 3

1. I wish I had invited him to the party.
2. If only I hadn't said that to her!
3. I wish I hadn't hit him.